

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 05570 280342Z

21

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

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R 280315Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6796

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 5570

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VS, TW

SUBJECT: TRAVELS OF THE THIEU FAMILY

1. IN RECENT DAYS THE FAMILY OF FORMER SVN PRESIDENT NGUYEN VAN THIEU HAS BEGUN TO DISPERSE FROM TAIWAN TO EUROPE. THE FOLLOWING IS BASED ON NEWSPAPER REPORTS AND ON CONVERSATION WITH FORMER VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS IN TAIPEI.

2. ON AUGUST 15 NGUYEN VAN KIEU, FORMER GVN AMBASSADOR IN TAIPEI AND BROTHER OF FORMER PRESIDENT THIEU, LEFT FOR FRANCE WITH HIS WIFE, MOTHER, SISTER, AND GRANDSON. IT IS LIKELY THAT KIEU WILL RETURN TO TAIWAN AFTER VISITING FRANCE AND LONDON, BUT THOSE ACCOMPANYING HIM WILL PROBABLY REMAIN IN FRANCE TO JOIN WITH FORMER VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR TO ROME, NGUYEN VAN HIEU, WHO IS THE BROTHER OF KIEU AND THIEU.

3. THIEU'S WIFE LEFT TAIPEI ON AUGUST 22 REPORTEDLY ENROUTE TO LONDON, WHERE THIEU'S FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLD SON IS STUDYING. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THIEU'S YOUNGER DAUGHTER HAS ALSO DEPARTED FOR LONDON. WE BELIEVE IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THEY WILL RETURN TO TAIWAN.

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PAGE 02 TAIPEI 05570 280342Z

4. AS FOR THIEU HIMSELF, HE REPORTEDLY WILL VISIT LONDON

(AS HE EARLIER TOLD AMBASSADOR UNGER) IN SEPTEMBER
FOLLOWING KIEU'S RETURN TO TAIPEI. IT IS
UNLIKELY THAT THIEU WILL RETURN TO TAIWAN. UNGER

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NNN

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